

1821 John W. Proudfit

Chair of Latin, New York University.

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His father, Rev. Alex. Proudfit, D.D., was a man of eminent piety, a ripe scholar, and one of the most distinguished ministers in Northern New York. For forty years he was the pastor of the Associate Reformed Church of Salem, N.Y., one of the most prominent and influential societies in the denomination. The subject of this sketch received most excellent home training, and he enjoyed every advantage that could be afforded to a young man on his entrance into life. He pursued his literary course at Union College, graduating from that institution with honor in 1821. One of his classmates represents him to have been a diligent student, very far in advance of many of his associates, and especially developing a proficiency in the languages, which was quite remarkable. Dr. Nott, the president of the college, regarded him as one of the best of his students, and saw in him signs of future prominence. His theological education was obtained at Princeton. And here also he took a very high stand among his fellow students as a man, a scholar, and a Christian. Few were esteemed more highly, or made a better use of their opportunities than he did. He was regarded as a thoughtful, conscientious, and earnest man, devoting himself with singular fidelity to the work before him. He was a man of faith and of prayer, and even at that early period of life he was full of good works. As a scholar he stood among the best in his class. Study was a joy to him. The Greek and Latin languages became almost as familiar to him as the English itself. He read much, and thought deeply. He was not superficial, but went to the root of things, and understood what he read. In his daily reading of the Scriptures he preferred the original languages, and his trans-

UCSLA f1821 proud fit - J. 0003

endowments. He was in early life devoted to the ministry by his pious Scotch mother. Many acts of beneficence marked his entire ministerial career. He served the Prospect Hill Church for the most part gratuitously, for nearly forty years, putting aside calls to larger fields, for which he was eminently qualified by his great learning, and keenly logical mind. Exceptional circumstances made the Prospect Hill Church very dear to his heart. Though of a quiet, retiring disposition, his kindly, sympathetic nature made him a devoted pastor. He was a man of great conscientiousness, faithful, and constant in the duties of his calling, a faithful friend, a wise counsellor and a reliable guide. He was a spiritually minded man, strong in faith, and unreserved in his consecration to Christ and his church. See also "Mints. Gen. Syn.," 1901, 1243.

Quaw, Jas. E. N.B.S. 1828, Miss. at Tyashoke, 28-9; at Lysander, 29-30, Dashville Falls, 31-4, Breakabin, Cobleskill, and Schoharie Mt., 34-6, w. c. 36-45, lost on Lake Erie. See "McClintock's Cyclop."

PUBLICATIONS: "The Immerser Instructed." 1844.—"The Cold Water Man."

QUICK, AB. MESSLER, b. Somerville, N.J., R.C. 1860, N.B.S. 64, 1. Cl. N.B. Port Jackson, 64-69; Franklin, 1869-92, Peekskill, 82-84, Ocean Hill, Brooklyn, N.Y.C., 1885— 1900, w. c.

PUBLICATIONS: Many Arts. and Communications to Periodicals and Magazines; pamphlets.

Quick, John J. N.B.S. 1839, 1. Cl. Philadelphia; Jackson, 40-3, Fairfield 45-9, Wynantskill, 49-54, Currytown, 55-6, Mapletown and Currytown 56-61, Mapletown, 61-2, S.S. Fort Herkimer, 1867-8. Died 18..

Quick, Peter J., b. Mar. 6, 1806; R.C. 33, N.B.S. 36, 1. Cl. Philadelphia, Clarkstown, 37-66, Rector of Hertzog Hall, 69-74, librarian of Sage Library, 74-1886, d. Nov. 9.

He was a model pastor. As a preacher he was little known outside of his first and only charge. He had a diffidence and reserve which made it a torture for him to preach before any people but his own; so that aside

ceived into the church during his pastorate, a proof of his ministerial fidelity and usefulness, as well as of God's blessing upon his labors.

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Rev. Dr. R. H. Steele. UCSLAF 1821 proudfit - J. 0004

See "Princeton Rev.," xv., 312. "Index to Prin. Rev.," 275.

PUBLICATIONS: "Choice of a Profession": Baccalaureate Sermon, R.C. 1841.—"Nature of True Greatness."—"The Captives." A Comedy of Plautus, with Eng. Notes. 1843.—"Remarks on Hist., Structure, and Theories of the Apostles' Creed." 1852. (See "Princeton Rev.," 1852.)—Editor of "New Brunswick Rev.," 1855.—"The Sanctuary of God consulted in the Present Crisis." 1861.—"Man's Two-fold Life" included in the "Promise of Godliness": A Disc. at the Install. of Rev. Wm. Irwin at Rondout. 1862. Address at the fun. of Theodore Strong, LL.D. 1869.—Art. in "Sprague's Annals" on Dr. J. S. Cannon.—Arts. in "Princeton Rev." on "Inspiration and Catholicism." 1851.—"The Heidelberg Catechism and Dr. Nevin." 1852.—"Review of Voelcker and others on Homeric Ideas of the Soul and a Future State." ("Bib. Sac.," xv., 753.)—Other articles in "Bibliotheca Sacra," "Independent," "Evening Post," "Ledger," etc.

ties not allowing him to take a charge, he lived with his son, Rev. Thomas Pomp, pastor at Easton, Pa. He still occasionally preached, and when, by a fall from his horse, he was incapacitated from riding either on horseback or in a carriage, so fond were the people of hearing him, that he was several times carried on a litter a dozen miles, that they might hear the gospel from his lips.—*Harbaugh's Lives*.

POOL, CHAS. HUBBARD, b. on L. I., 1840; R.C. 1863, N.B.S. 1866, I. S. Cl. L.I.; Bedminster, 1866-75, Raritan, 3d, 1875—

Pool, Geo. H. Jersey City Hights, 18—...

PORTER, ELBERT STOTHOFF, (son-in-law of P. S. Wynkoop,) C.N.J. 1839, N.B.S. 1842, I. Cl. N.B. 1842, Miss. to Chatham, 1842-3, Chatham, 1843-9, Williamsburgh, 1849—; also editor of *Christian Intelligencer*, 1852-1868. D.D. by R.C. 1857.

Publications: "The Resurrection," Fun. Ser. on Death of Mrs. B. Van Buren. 1845.—Perils and Securities of Our Country. 1850.—Domestic Missions: a Ser. before Gen. Synod. 1851.—Gladness in the Sanctuary: a Ser. at Reopening of Ch. Williamsburgh. 1855.—Address at Boston in behalf of Am. Tract Soc. 1860.—Language of Affliction: Ser. on Death of Adaline Rider. 1864.—Ser. on Death of Pres. Lincoln. 1865.—The R.D.C. in Williamsburgh: a Hist. Discourse. 1866.—Hist. Doctrine and Spirit of R.D.C. *Bib. Sac.*, Ap. 1866.—A Pastor's Hints to his People.—A Commem. Disc. on the Life, Character and Services of Rev. Dr. I. N. Wyckoff. 1839.—Sermons in *Nat. Preacher*, on Advantages of Denominationalism, The New Heavens and the New Earth, and The Temple Transfigured.—Address at Fun. of Rev. Edward Holmes.—The Literature of Ref. Ch., 1776-1876. In *Centennial Discourses*.—Editorials in *Ch. Intelligencer*, 1852-68.

Porter, Reuben, w. c. 1840-55.

Powell, Henry Alanson, b. Chatham, N.Y., 1851; U.C. 1873, U.S. 1876; Bushwick, L.I., 1876—83; *Cong. Bklyn 83-91. Lamp in N.Y. city, 89.*

Proudfit, Alex. R.C. 1858, N.B.S. and P.S. 1861; ord. Evang. by 1st Presbyt. N.Y. 1862; chaplain U.S.A. 1862, Clayton, N.J., 1866—

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his entrance into life. He pursued his literary course at Union College, graduating from that institution with honor in 1821. One of his classmates represents him to have been a diligent student, very far in advance of many of his associates, and especially developing a proficiency in the languages which was quite remarkable. Dr. Nott, the president of the college, regarded him as one of the best of his students, and saw in him signs of future prominence. His theological education was obtained at Princeton. And here also he took a very high stand among his fellow-students as a man, a scholar, and a Christian. Few were esteemed more highly, or made a better use of their opportunities than he did. He was regarded as a thoughtful, conscientious, and earnest man, devoting himself with singular fidelity to the work before him. He was a man of faith and of prayer, and even at that early period of life he was full of good works. As a scholar he stood among the best in his class. Study was a joy to him. The Greek and Latin languages became almost as familiar to him as the English itself. He read much, and thought deeply. He was not superficial, but went to the root of things, and understood what he read. In his daily reading of the Scriptures he preferred the original languages, and his translation was easy, rapid, and accurate. And this was a habit that he kept up through life.

His only settlement in the ministry was at Newburyport, Mass., in the Federal Street Church, the leading society of the city. He displayed during his short residence among that people rare traits of excellence as a minister of the gospel, and as the pastor of a congregation. He prepared his sermons with great care, and presented the truths of Scripture in such an orderly way as to attract the attention of thoughtful hearers. As a pastor he was very successful, going among his people as a son of consolation; and towards young men especially he was warm-hearted and affectionate, giving to them excellent counsels, and stimulating them to aim at a high standard in some honorable calling. He continued in this field about six years, laboring with some disadvantages arising from impaired health, and from the rigor of the climate, compelling him to cease from his work for a considerable period, and seek rest in foreign travel. Yet he was remarkably successful. The church continued united during his ministry and was prospered. The large number of three hundred and forty were received into the church during his pastorate, a proof of his ministerial fidelity and usefulness, as well as of God's blessing upon his labors.

The principal part of his life was occupied in the work of teaching, first as Professor of the Languages in the University of New-York during the presidency of his fellow-townsmen, Dr. Mathews, and subsequently in Rutgers College. He was in New-York seven years, and in New-Brunswick twenty-one years. This latter period was the most useful portion of his life. He was associated with most valuable and learned men in the faculty, and was esteemed by them as a man of culture, a laborious student himself, and in his own department a very admirable teacher. He gathered around him a large and valuable library, and among his books he was always at home. He secured the confidence of the students, and manifested a very

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After the storm of 1833, the University enjoyed three years of peace and prosperity.

John W. Proudfit, a graduate of Union, was given the chair of Latin. p. 44

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On August 30, 1838, the Council voted to "reorganize" the faculty, in such a way that the seven professors found themselves without duties or salaries.

The faculty considered the motive to be revenge by the Chancellor. The faculty, perhaps, unwisely, answered ~~the~~ by publishing a letter of complaint to the Council and the Council, on September 28, replied by definitely discharging Tappan (Union 1825, Proudfit, (Union 1821, Beck (Union 1817; and Gale, Union 1825, among the seven. pp. 49-50

New York University
1832-1932
Theodore Francis Jones
Editor
N.Y. Univ. Press
1933

The younger Dr. Proudfit graduated from Union College in 1823, and from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1824. From 1827 to 1833 he was pastor of the Reformed Church at Newburyport, Mass. From 1833 to 1840 he was Professor of Latin at the University of New York. From 1840 to 1864 he occupied the chair of Greek, at Rutgers College. He was appointed Hospital Chaplain of Volunteers United States Army, June 20, 1862, and served until mustered out August 21, 1865, at the close of the war. The degree of D. D. was given him by Union College in 1841. He published several sermons, was the author of "Man's Twofold Life" (1862), and edited "A Comedy of Plautus, with English Notes" (1848).

The death of Dr. Proudfit occurred March 9, 1870; that of his widow, nee Ralston, four years later, June 9, 1874. They were the parents of two children, to wit: Robert Ralston and Alexander, both of whom became clergymen.

He married Abigail Ralston, daughter of Robert and Sarah (Clarkson) Ralston, who was born July 31, 1801, and married Dr. Proudfit May 11, 1830.

Dr. Proudfit was born September 22, 1803, and was a son of Rev. Alexander Moncrief and Susan (Williams) Proudfit.

Ralston (Newspaper clipping in book form)
Henry W. Nurce.

The funeral of Rev. John Proudfit, D. D., took place on Sunday last, at 1 P. M., at the U. P. Church of this village. The services were performed by Rev. A. B. Lambert, D. D., of South Hartford, and were of an able and interesting character. Dr. Proudfit was born in this village, and here he spent his youthful days.

We copy the following from the New York Times of Saturday last:

"The funeral of Rev. John Proudfit, D. D., took place at the Fifth Avenue and Nineteenth Street Presbyterian Church at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. The ceremonies were conducted by Rev. John Hall, D. D., the pastor of the church and a very interesting and appreciative sketch of the life and character of the deceased minister was pronounced by Rev. D. Stevenson, to which a few feeling and eloquent words were added by Rev. Dr. Crosby, a life-long and very intimate friend of Dr. Proudfit.

"Dr. Proudfit died in the 67th year of his age. More than forty years of his life were devoted to classical letters and the Christian ministry. His scholarship was profound, and his piety earnest and conscientious, and his works of charity always abounding, so they were eminently practical though never obtrusive. His love of letters and enthusiasm for classical literature, as well as his accomplishments in the modern languages, were only secondary to his ever present devotion to Evangelical Christianity. He came of a race of Presbyterian ministers, his father and grandfather, natives both of Scotland, having given their well-spent lives to the pulpit. Dr. Proudfit, himself was born in Washington County, New York. He graduated at Union College at the age of 17, and was for several years thereafter a tutor in the College. For nearly 20 years he was Greek Professor in Rutgers College, New Jersey, preaching most of the time every Sunday in addition to his literary labors. For nearly ten years preceding his death, his health had been somewhat feeble, but while giving up his regular employment and spending several of these years in Europe, he was never idle in the fields of Christian devotion---at home, as a volunteer Chaplain to the forts and army hospitals around this City during the war, and abroad, in filling Evangelical pulpits at Nice, and in other cities on the Continent.

"Dr. Proudfit died at the residence of his nephew, Alexander P. Irvin, New York City, leaving a widow and two sons (both in the ministry) a brother on Staten Island, Mr. Alexander M. Proudfit, and a sister, Mrs. Richard Irvin, of New York City.

JOHN WILLIAMS PROUDFIT

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See "Princeton Rev.," xv., 312. "Index to Prin. Rev.," 275.

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Manual of the Reformed Church in America pp. 665-667
Corwin
1628-1902

1821

A sketch of the life of JOHN W. PROUDFIT appears in the Annals of the American

Pulpit, Vol. 9

Civil

War Record

1821 JOHN W. PROUDFIT, A.B., D.D.

Appointed Hospital Chaplain of Vols. June 20, 1862.

Honorably mustered out, Aug. 21, 1865.

Rev. J. W. Proudfit, Union 1821, was a prolific writer in the press and magazines and some pamphlets and a few books. Sketches are found of him in Princeton Review xv. 312 and in the "Corwin's Manual" of 1902 Ed.

18
*Proudfit, John Williams—b. Salem, N. Y., Sept. 22, 1803; U. C., 1821; (1—); ord. Ass. Ref. Phy. Washington, Nov. 4, '25; p. Federal St. (Whitefield Memorial) ch., Newburyport, Mass., '27-33; prof. Lat. and Gr., U. N. Y., '34-41; prof. Gr. and Gr. Lit., R. C., '41-60; chap. U. S. A., '62-65; d. N. Y. City, Mar. 9, 1870. D. D., U. C., 1841. *Princeton Schol. Cat. 1894.*

Class of 1823

As professor of the classical languages, Dr. Proudfit had been for seven years professor of Latin at New York university and, beginning his work at Rutgers in 1841, was to remain with the college nearly twenty years, until 1859. He was a graduate of Union College and of Princeton theological Seminary, a scholar of high attainments and a teacher of proved success. The college was considered very fortunate in securing him. To his familiarity with the Latin and Greek he added a familiar knowledge and trained appreciation of general literature. Sermons and addresses delivered by him were published; he wrote articles for various reviews; and he even ventured the editing and issuing of a periodical. In 1855 he started the New Brunswick Review; four numbers only were issued; its suspension was apparently for financial reasons alone. It was a volume of real excellence and was an interesting episode in the history of publications put forth by or immediately related to Rutgers College. Dr. Proudfit was a man of high personal worth and of cultivated manners and at once won for himself high place in the general life of the community. He lived in the house now known as the Vail house at the corner of Livingston Avenue and New Street and he was a familiar figure, riding horseback,.... p.345.

....retired from active work in 1859. Dr. Proudfit continued to reside in the city and he gave himself to philanthropic and religious service until his death in 1870, being especially zealous during the Civil War. p. 384.

History of Rutgers College
William H. S. Demarest
New Brunswick, N. J. 1924

Rev. JOHN A. PROUDFIT, A.M., 1821, of Salem, N.Y., was a member of the Philomathean Society. (Died: 1870)

Philomathean Catalogue 1830

Appointed in 1840 to Faculty of Rutgers
REV. JOHN WILLIAMS PROUDFIT, A.B. (Union, 1821)

D.D. (Union, 1841)..... Died 1870.
Born at Salem, N. Y., Sept. 22, 1803.
Princeton Seminary, 1824.
Presb. clergyman.
Professor of Latin Language and Literature, Univ. N. Y., 1833-41.
Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages and Literatures. Rutgers,
1840-45.
Professor of the Greek Language and Literature, Rutgers, 1845-59.
Died, March 9, 1870.

Rutgers Catalogue
p. 38

1821
CLASS OF 1818

JOHN WILLIAMS PROUDFIT.

Son of Alexander Proudfit.
Born in Salem, N. Y., 1803.
Graduated at Union College
Tutor in languages one year.
Pastor six years Old Federal Street Presbyterian
Church, Newburyport, Mass.
Professor of Latin in New York University
Professor of Greek in Rutgers College from 1841 to 1859.
U. S. post Chaplain all through the War.
Died 1870
Married Abigail Haggard Ralston. Their children were:

1. Robert R., married Elizabeth St. George.
2. Alexander, married Annie Cooper Smith.

N.Y.Gen. & Biog. Record
Vol. 29 p. 123
1898.

21
1818

JOHN WILLIAMSPROUDFIT

Son of Dr. Alexander Proudfit, of Salem, N.Y., adopted his father's profession. He connected himself with the Presbyterian Church, and preached for a time in Newburyport, Mass. He afterward became Professor of Latin in the New York University and later Professor of Greek in Rutgers College. he died 1874.

The faculty mantle descended in this line to the fourth generation. The two sons of Dr. John William Proudfit both entered the ministry. The elder, Robert Rallston, was chaplain of the First Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, in the Civil War, and the younger, Alexander was pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Scranton, Pa., and later in Baltimore, Md.

John WilliamsProudfit was the son of Alexander and Susan (Williams) Proudfit, daughter of Gen. John Williams.

History of the Proudfit Family
pp.27-28
Margaret Compton, comp.
Meadville, Pa.
1911.

John Williams Proudfit A.B. 1821

1821
John Williams Proudfit A.B.